

# Mineral Industry Surveys

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## GYPSUM IN SEPTEMBER 2004

Producers mined 1.39 million metric tons (Mt) of gypsum in September 2004 (table 1). Output was 9% less than that of August 2004, and 3% less than that of September 2003. Synthetic gypsum production was 700,000 metric tons (t) in September 2004 (table 1), which was 3% less than that of August 2004, and 4% less than that of September 2003. Both mined and synthetic gypsum are used as raw material for wallboard. The wallboard industry is the largest domestic consumer of gypsum. During January through August 2004, synthetic gypsum accounted for 5.74 Mt, or about 25%, of the 23.2-Mt supply of gypsum in the United States. Sales of uncalcined gypsum, mainly for portland cement manufacture and for agricultural uses, were 660,000 t (table 2), 12% more than that of August 2004, and 22% more than that of September 2003.

Output of calcined gypsum for September (table 1) was 1.90 Mt, about 2% less than that of August 2004, and 2% more than that of September 2003. Sales of board products were about

2.9 billion square feet (267 million square meters), 2% less than that of August 2004, and 2% more than that of September 2003.

U.S. Government import and export data for September 2004 were not available at the time of publication. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, imports of crude gypsum in August 2004 were 735,000 t (table 3), 27% less than that of July 2004, and 12% less than that of August 2003. Gypsum wallboard imports, principally from Canada, for August 2004 were 51,000 t, equivalent to 61 million square feet (5.7 million square meters). These imports were 2% less than that of July 2004, and 19% more than those of July 2003. Wallboard exports to 26 countries and territories in August 2004 were 7,100 t, equivalent to 8.5 million square feet (790,000 square meters). These exports were 3% more than those of July 2004, and 54% less than those of August 2003.

All percentages in this report were computed based on unrounded data.

TABLE 1  
GYPSUM SUPPLY<sup>1, 2</sup>

(Metric tons)

	2004			2003
	September	August	January-September	January-September
Crude:				
Mined <sup>4</sup>	1,390,000	1,520,000	12,500,000	11,700,000
Imported <sup>5</sup>	NA	735,000	NA	5,980,000
Exported <sup>5</sup>	NA	8,790	NA	149,000
Synthetic gypsum <sup>6</sup>	700,000	725,000	6,440,000	3,890,000
Total supply	NA	2,970,000	NA	21,400,000
Calcined:				
Produced	1,900,000	1,940,000	15,900,000	16,100,000
Imported <sup>7</sup>	NA	558	NA	12,400
Exported <sup>7</sup>	NA	17,800	NA	155,000
Total supply	NA	1,920,000	NA	16,000,000

NA Not available.

<sup>1</sup>Includes data from the Gypsum Association.

<sup>2</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

<sup>3</sup>Includes revisions to previous months' data.

<sup>4</sup>Some data were estimated from semiannual reports.

<sup>5</sup>Import and export data are for "Gypsum; anhydrite," Harmonized Tariff Schedule 2520.10.0000.

<sup>6</sup>Reported production only.

<sup>7</sup>Import and export data are for "Plaster," Harmonized Tariff Schedule 2520.20.0000.

TABLE 2  
GYPSUM SOLD OR USED BY PRODUCERS, BY USE<sup>1, 2</sup>

(Metric tons, unless otherwise specified)

	2004			2003
	September	August	January-September <sup>3</sup>	January-September
Uncalcined: <sup>4</sup>				
Portland cement	480,000	391,000	3,130,000	3,000,000
Agriculture and miscellaneous	180,000	196,000	1,420,000	1,690,000
Total	660,000	588,000	4,540,000	4,690,000
Calcined:				
Board products <sup>5</sup>	2,400,000	2,450,000	21,400,000	20,200,000
Plaster	13,000	14,500	125,000	194,000
Total	2,410,000	2,460,000	21,500,000	20,400,000
Board products: (Thousand square feet) <sup>6</sup>				
Regular board	1,760,000	1,810,000	15,700,000	14,300,000
Type X board	848,000	859,000	7,640,000	7,120,000
Other	266,000	273,000	2,360,000	2,210,000
Total supply	2,880,000	2,940,000	25,700,000	23,700,000

<sup>1</sup>Includes data from the Gypsum Association.

<sup>2</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

<sup>3</sup>Includes revisions to previous months' data.

<sup>4</sup>Does not include synthetic gypsum from electric power plants.

<sup>5</sup>Includes weight of paper and other materials.

<sup>6</sup>One square meter equals 10.78 square feet.

TABLE 3  
CRUDE GYPSUM IMPORTED FOR CONSUMPTION<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons)

Country of origin	2004			2003
	August	July	January-August	January-August
Argentina	--	--	--	18
Austria	--	--	8	14
Canada	476,000	685,000	4,380,000	3,560,000
China	--	--	413,000	--
Costa Rica	--	--	53	--
Dominican Republic	6,690	6,500	84,500	61,100
Guatemala	--	--	--	22
Italy	--	--	26,900	10
Jamaica	--	--	19,200	16
Japan	--	2	3	--
Mexico	193,000	212,000	1,410,000	1,160,000
Peru	2	--	2	--
Spain	60,100	109,000	470,000	505,000
Sweden	--	--	--	2
United Kingdom	--	--	21	38
Total	735,000	1,010,000	6,470,000	5,290,000

-- Zero.

<sup>1</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 4  
CRUDE GYPSUM IN THE UNITED STATES<sup>1, 2</sup>

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Consumption <sup>3</sup>	Production <sup>4</sup>	Imports <sup>5</sup>	Exports <sup>5</sup>
2003:				
July	2,240	1,380	875	16
August	2,150	1,320	834	12
September	2,120	1,440	696	15
October	2,210	1,510	713	13
November	2,070	1,310	766	13
December	2,120	1,300	830	17
January-December	24,400	16,300	8,300	167
2004:				
January	2,100	1,350	761	13
February	1,810	1,260	559	12
March	2,180	1,390	806	14
April	2,140	1,400	751	9
May	2,230	1,340	905	11
June	2,200	1,280	936	14
July	2,570	1,580	1,010	14
August	2,240	1,520	735	9
September	NA	1,390	NA	NA

NA Not available.

<sup>1</sup>Excludes synthetic gypsum.

<sup>2</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits.

<sup>3</sup>Consumption calculated by adding the production and imports shown in this table and subtracting the exports shown in this table. Monthly inventory changes are not included.

<sup>4</sup>Production data are from the semiannual gypsum canvasses of the non-wallboard producers, annual canvass of all producers, and from monthly data furnished by the Gypsum Association from the wallboard producers.

<sup>5</sup>Data from U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 5  
SALES OF GYPSUM BOARD PRODUCTS, BY SALES REGIONS<sup>1,2</sup>

(Thousand square feet)<sup>3</sup>

	New England	Middle Atlantic	E. North Central	W. North Central	South Atlantic	E. South Central	W. South Central	Mountain	Pacific	Exports	Total
2004:											
September:											
Lath	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Veneer base	24,700	2,760	8,530	1,070	7,660	6	14	207	1,620	42	46,600
Sheathing	1,770	4,370	4,880	5,970	14,200	2,800	11,900	6,240	8,180	2,670	62,900
Regular gypsum board	44,100	152,000	230,000	122,000	436,000	130,000	232,000	176,000	210,000	32,400	1,760,000
Type X gypsum board	25,400	85,300	130,000	66,700	120,000	28,300	90,300	104,000	191,000	6,590	848,000
Predecorated board	331	587	1,120	515	1,310	364	859	414	501	126	6,120
5/16 Mobile home board	--	656	5,920	--	10,900	15,100	6,220	426	704	112	40,100
Water/moisture resistant board	5,110	19,700	14,800	5,690	21,500	4,720	10,500	9,430	15,400	3,330	110,000
Total	101,000	265,000	395,000	202,000	611,000	181,000	352,000	297,000	427,000	45,300	2,880,000
January- September:											
Lath	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Veneer base	213,000	24,000	73,500	7,290	78,000	227	427	2,630	14,100	416	413,000
Sheathing	13,200	38,700	42,100	53,500	129,000	24,400	100,000	53,700	76,900	19,100	550,000
Regular gypsum board	379,000	1,320,000	2,020,000	1,030,000	4,380,000	1,110,000	1,890,000	1,490,000	1,790,000	282,000	15,700,000
Type X gypsum board	237,000	761,000	1,110,000	597,000	1,230,000	265,000	799,000	906,000	1,660,000	65,400	7,640,000
Predecorated board	2,630	5,770	8,230	4,640	11,700	3,470	7,730	3,450	5,330	531	53,500
5/16 Mobile home board	--	8,500	44,200	1	87,900	106,000	60,600	5,860	7,960	188	321,000
Water/moisture resistant board	46,800	176,000	134,000	54,900	218,000	41,000	97,300	80,500	137,000	31,200	1,020,000
Total	891,000	2,330,000	3,430,000	1,750,000	6,140,000	1,550,000	2,960,000	2,540,000	3,700,000	399,000	25,700,000

-- Zero.

<sup>1</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

<sup>2</sup>Sales region equivalent to U.S. Census Bureau Geographic Division as follows: New England (CT, MA, ME, NH, RI, VT); Middle Atlantic (NJ, NY, PA); East North Central (IL, IN, MI, OH, WI); West North Central (IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, ND, SD); South Atlantic (DC, DE, FL, GA, MD, NC, SC, VA, WV); East South Central (AL, KY, MS, TN); West South Central (AR, LA, OK, TX); Mountain (AZ, CO, ID, MT, NM, NV, UT, WY); Pacific (AK, CA, HI, OR, WA).

<sup>3</sup>One square meter equals 10.78 square feet.

Source: Gypsum Association.